

Internal Revenue Service, Treasury

§ 31.3406(a)-1

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§ 31.3406(i)-1 Effective date.

[T.D. 8637, 60 FR 66112, Dec. 21, 1995, as amended by T.D. 8734, 62 FR 53493, Oct. 14, 1997; T.D. 9010, 67 FR 48759, July 26, 2002]

§ 31.3406(a)-1 Backup withholding requirement on reportable payments.

(a) *Overview.* Under section 3406, a payor must deduct and withhold 31 percent of a reportable payment if a condition for withholding exists. *Reportable payments* mean interest and dividend payments (as defined in section 3406(b)(2)) and other reportable payments (as defined in section 3406(b)(3)). The conditions described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section apply to all reportable payments, including reportable interest and dividend payments. The conditions described in paragraph (b)(2) of this section apply only to reportable interest and dividend payments.

(b) *Conditions that invoke the backup withholding requirement—*(1) *Conditions applicable to all reportable payments.* A payor of a reportable payment must deduct and withhold under section 3406 if—

(i) The payee of the reportable payment does not furnish the payee's taxpayer identification number to the payor, as required in section 3406(a)(1)(A) and § 31.3406(d)-1; or

(ii) The Internal Revenue Service or a broker notifies the payor that the taxpayer identification number furnished by its payee for a reportable

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payment is incorrect, as described in section 3406(a)(1)(B) and § 31.3406(d)-5.

(2) *Conditions applicable only to reportable interest or dividend payments.* A payor of a reportable interest or dividend payment must deduct and withhold under section 3406 if—

(i) The Internal Revenue Service or a broker notifies the payor that its payee has underreported interest or dividend income, as described in section 3406(a)(1)(C) and § 31.3406(c)-1; or

(ii) The payee fails to certify to the payor or broker that the payee is not subject to withholding due to notified payee underreporting, as described in section 3406(a)(1)(D) and § 31.3406(d)-2.

(c) *Exceptions.* The requirement to withhold does not apply to certain minimal payments as described in § 31.3406(b)(4)-1 or to payments exempt from withholding under §§ 31.3406(g)-1 through 31.3406(g)-3.

(d) *Cross references.* For the definition of *payor*, see § 31.3406(a)-2. For the definition of *taxpayer identification number*, see § 31.3406(h)-1(b).

[T.D. 8637, 60 FR 66114, Dec. 21, 1995]

§ 31.3406(a)-2 Definition of payors obligated to backup withhold.

(a) *In general.* *Payor* means the person that is required to make an information return under section 6041, 6041A(a), 6042, 6044, 6045, 6049, 6050A, or 6050N, with respect to any reportable payment (as described in section 3406(b)), or that is described in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Persons treated as payors.* The following persons are treated as payors for purposes of section 3406—

(1) A grantor trust established after December 31, 1995, all of which is owned by two or more grantors (treating for this purpose spouses filing a joint return as one grantor);

(2) A grantor trust with ten or more grantors established on or after January 1, 1984 but before January 1, 1996;

(3) A common trust fund; and

(4) A partnership or an S corporation that makes a reportable payment.

(c) *Persons not treated as payors.* A person on the following list is not treated as a payor for purposes of section 3406 if the person does not have a reporting obligation under the section

on information reporting to which the payment relates—

(1) A trust (other than a grantor trust as described in paragraph (b)(1) or (2) of this section) that files a Form 1041 containing information required to be shown on an information return, including amounts withheld under section 3406; or

(2) A partnership making a payment of a distributive share or an S corporation making a similar distribution.

(d) *Effective date.* The provisions of this section apply to payments made after December 31, 2002.

[T.D. 9010, 67 FR 48759, July 26, 2002]

§ 31.3406(a)-3 Scope and extent of accounts subject to backup withholding.

A payor who is required to withhold under § 31.3406(a)-1 must withhold—

(a) On the accounts subject to withholding under § 31.3406(a)-1 (b)(1)(i) or (b)(2)(ii); and

(b) On the accounts subject to withholding under § 31.3406(a)-1(b)(1)(ii) or (b)(2)(i), as described under § 31.3406(d)-5 (relating to notification of incorrect TIN) or § 31.3406(c)-1 (relating to notified payee underreporting), respectively.

[T.D. 8637, 60 FR 66114, Dec. 21, 1995]

§ 31.3406(a)-4 Time when payments are considered to be paid and subject to backup withholding.

(a) *Timing—(1) In general.* If backup withholding is required under section 3406 on a reportable payment (as defined in section 3406(b)), the payor must withhold at the time it makes the payment to the payee or to the payee's account that is subject to withholding. Amounts are considered paid when they are credited to the account of, or made available to, the payee. Amounts are not considered paid solely because they are posted (e.g., an informational notation on the payee's passbook) if they are not actually credited to the payee's account or made available to the payee. See paragraph (c) of this section for the timing of withholding by a middleman.

(2) *Special rules for dividends.* For purposes of section 3406 and this section—

(i) *Record date earlier than payment date.* In the case of stock for which the